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opinion, and we think with reason, that the contemporaneous evidence tends to show that White or With, the first cartographer of Virginia, was not Raleigh's governor.

The second important map of Virginia was John Smith's. Of that work Mr. Phillips says: "Journeying along unknown streams in a country where at every step lurked danger from enmity of the savage inhabitants and discord among his followers, Smith made a map which is an authority to the present day, and when compared with other maps of his day, impresses us with the genius of the man." The maps of White, or With, and Smith influenced all subsequent Virginia cartography until Augustine Herman's map appeared in 1673. This first became accessible to students in this country two centuries later, when a reduced facsimile of the original in the British Museum was published in the *Maps to accompany the Report of the Commissioners on the Boundary Line between Virginia and Maryland*, Richmond, 1873. A Bohemian by birth, Herman came from Holland to New Amsterdam about 1647 and subsequently settled in Maryland, where he made his map of the surrounding country. Its preëminence continued until 1751, when Thomas Jefferys published *A Map of the most inhabited parts of Virginia, containing the whole Province of Maryland, with parts of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and North Carolina*, by Joshua Fry and Peter Jefferson.

The map of John Henry, engraved by Thomas Jefferys, "Geographer to the King" (London, 1770), is still of interest, as the geography of the state, according to Mr. Phillips, has never been more thoroughly studied. It has especially a general historical value, as it contains the names of many of the plantations.

During the Revolutionary war thirty-four maps of Virginia were published, and in 1794 first appeared Carey's *American Atlas*, published in Philadelphia. Since then the list is a numerous one, the maps steadily increasing in minuteness and accuracy.

GAILLARD HUNT.

The Evolution of the Constitution of the United States, showing that it is a Development of Progressive History and not an isolated Document struck off at a given Time or an Imitation of English or Dutch Forms of Government. By SYDNEY GEORGE FISHER. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company. 1897. Pp. 398.)

THIS book will be of great use to all students of the constitutional history of the United States. It collates for the first time all the provisions of the colonial charters and the early state constitutions relating to the same subjects; and thus aids in tracing the origin of the similar clauses in the Federal Constitution. The idea is, however, not as new as the author seems to think. Almost all the previous commentators on the Constitution, from Judge Story to Dr. Stevens, have in many cases quoted from the colonial charters and history when discussing the clauses that resemble and seem to be derived from them. But Mr. Fisher has done

this work with more thoroughness and elaboration than writers who desired to gain the attention of the general reader have dared to attempt. His book is consequently one that will save much labor to all special students of the subject. It also contains a forcible argument against the theory of Mr. Douglas Campbell that our institutions are largely derived from Holland, which those who have any doubts upon the point should consult after reading the *Sources of the Constitution*, by Dr. C. Ellis Stevens.

In general, Mr. Fisher's book is accurate, although his language is at times extravagant. I note but one statement that might mislead a casual reader. At page 264, after an account of the annulment by the Pennsylvania legislature of the charters of the College of Philadelphia and the Bank of North America, he says: "Something, it was generally believed, must be done to give the new national government the power to prevent such deeds. Wilson, who had been a friend and supporter of both the bank and the college, solved the problem by providing in the national document that 'no state shall pass any law impairing the obligation of contracts.' " No authorities are cited in support of this statement, which involves an assumption, whether true or not, widely differing from the prevailing opinion of students of the subject.

Neither Madison nor King nor any other reporter of debates in the Federal Convention mentions Wilson as the author of the phrase. Madison says in the introduction to his report of the debates that "in the internal administration of the states, a violation of contracts had become familiar in the form of depreciated paper made a legal tender, of property substituted for money, of instalment laws, and of the occlusion of the courts of justice."

The origin of the clause in the Convention was on August 28, 1787, when "Mr. King moved to add to the words used in the ordinance of Congress establishing new states a prohibition on the states to interfere in private contracts." (Madison Papers, Elliot's *Debates*, 2d ed., Vol. V., p. 485). This was similar to the clause in the Northwestern Ordinance: "And in the just preservation of the rights and property, it is understood and declared, that no law ought ever to be made or have force in the said territory, that shall in any manner whatever interfere with or affect private contracts, or engagements, *bona fide* and without fraud previously formed." In the debate, which was short, but one remark of Wilson is preserved: "The answer to these objections is that retrospective interferences only are to be prohibited." (Madison Papers, Elliot's *Debates*, Vol. V., p. 485.) Finally on the motion of Rutledge the Convention agreed to a prohibition against the passage by a state of "retrospective laws." (Ibid. The printed journal says "*ex post facto* laws.") In this language the clause was referred to the Committee of Style and Arrangement, consisting of Johnson, Hamilton, Gouverneur Morris, Madison and King, in whose report the phrase "impairing the obligation of contracts," first appears. Although Gouverneur Morris was the man chiefly responsible for the changes in verbiage made by that committee, a tra-

dition first reported in a note by Wheaton to Sturges *vs.* Crowninshield (4 Wheaton's *Reports*, 151), ascribes its authorship to Wilson; and he undoubtedly took it from the works of the Scotch philosopher Thomas Reid, under whom he seems to have studied before his immigration. But although Wilson lectured on the Constitution we can find no suggestion by him that the clause applied to charters or executed grants and was not confined to executory contracts. The only passage from his works that can lend color to such a view is in his argument against the repeal of the charter of the Bank of North America, written two years before the Federal Convention, where the word obligation is used in a way that might bear such a construction. Had James Wilson intended to protect charters by the phrase he would undoubtedly have said so in his lectures before the University of Pennsylvania. (See the discussion in Shirley's *Dartmouth College Causes*, Ch. XII.)

If Mr. Fisher has discovered and will publish any evidence that before the Federal Convention there was any general belief that chartered rights should be protected from state legislation, he will make a valuable contribution to our constitutional history. If not, he should speak less positively on the subject in the next edition of his compilation.

ROGER FOSTER.

A History of Methodism in the United States. By JAMES M. BUCKLEY. (New York: The Christian Literature Company. 1897. Two vols., pp. xiii, 472, 481.)

THE aim of Dr. Buckley in these volumes is "to distinguish Methodism from other forms of Protestant Christianity, to explain its origin and trace its development" through the one hundred and thirty years of its existence in the United States. The book is an excellent piece of historical criticism and narration, having many admirable qualities. Good judgment is shown in the selection of events; the treatment is lucid, and the research is seemingly exhaustive. There is rigorous condensation of all minor matters that fuller consideration may be given to events epochal in significance. Recompense is made for omissions caused by abstention from minute treatment in an extended bibliography of exceeding value to the student in Methodism.

Nearly a fourth of the first volume is devoted to the English genesis. Protestantism in England is carefully traced from its beginnings in the reigns of Henry VIII. and Edward VI., and Methodism is given its proper historical setting within this larger movement. "The springing of American Methodism fully fledged from the brain and heart of Robert Strawbridge and Philip Embury" is accounted for in the personality of John Wesley, whose influence on these humble pioneers is described. To determine this personality our author seeks the formative influences of Wesley's life. He chronicles the founder's progenitors, who on both sides were of "gentle birth and ancient lineage;" and tells of the decisive impress of the home, the school, the university and of Peter Bohler, that